CONNECTICUT EMS VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, A COMMITTEE OF THE CT EMS ADVISORY BOARD

APPROVED Minutes for November 12, 2009 at North Branford Fire Department, Company 4 (Ambulance) Station 1351 Middletown Avenue Northford, CT

Attendance: P. Heavin J., R. McKeon, S. Mudge, J. Paretzky

Guests: L. Guercia (OEMS), K. Brown (OEMS)

Meeting called to order at 1900 PM by Chair Jay B. Paretzky

The minutes for the Volunteer Meeting on September 10, 2009 at Scotland Volunteer Fire Department 47 Brook Road, Scotland, CT- Approved

Chair Report: The Chair reviewed Public Act 09-232 that changed the name from EMT-I to Advanced EMT and MRT to Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) and calls for recertification every three years not two years. Requires thirty hours of refresher training. Proposed changes to the Regulations have been distributed and comments are appreciated. The Advisory Board will review comments at the December and January meeting, final vote will be at the February meeting.

Proposed changes to the regulations include:

Thirty hours of refresher training, with a minimum of twenty in a classroom and ten hours approved on-line training programs, all within 18 months of the recertification date. Regulation changes also call for PSAR assignment changes, equipment requirements, general requirements for EMS personnel, training, and re-certifications.

EMR will have eighteen hours of refresher training, twelve hours in a live classroom and six hours in an approved on-line course, within 18 months from the date of the re-certification. EMS-I re-certification is also reviewed.

One of the objectives of the Volunteer Committee was to have three year certifications-this has been accomplished.

The entire proposed changes to the Regulations need to be reviewed and comments submitted to the Chair so we can report back to the Board.

Regional Councils review with \$500.000 approved for all five regions. This is a reduction from \$670,000 previously budgeted. The Councils are working on a business plan.

The Volunteer Committee requested that the minimum staffing for all levels of EMS in CT would be changed to allow an MRT and any level EMT (B, I, and P) make up the minimum staffing requirements. The EMT B, I or P would be responsible for patient care during transport. Discussion followed.

Discussion about the prior goals and objectives of the Volunteer Committee was held.

Two pending issues are still supported by the Volunteer Committee they are:

- 1) Support an act concerning the study of CT EMS, OEMS, Recruitment, Training, Initial Certification and Retention of Emergency Services Personnel-funding request of \$150,000 for an independent study.
- Support an act concerning the Equipment and Training Grants for Emergency Medical Services-funding request for \$250,000 to support equipment needs, training, recruitment and retention of EMS CT EMS

CT EMS Advisory Board up-date.

CT OEMS report –given out Kevin Brown and Lenny Guercia reported on the OEMS activities. With the State-wide budget cuts, training and testing have been affected. The State has changed the procedure for administering the written examinations for initial MRT (EMR), recertification and EMT exams. There is a fee of \$125.00 for an Exam Proctor for an exam. A new bank of state-wide exam questions will be developed before June 15,2010. Exam proctors will convey answer sheets to OEMS for grading.

Recertification Practical Examinations will require an exam proctor fee of \$250.00 for the testing. Students will no longer go to Middletown for testing.

Documentation of practical exams will be submitted to OEMS.

Kevin reported on the EVOC program being worked on by the Education and Training Committee. A final recommendation is expected at the December Board meeting.

Discussion followed about our request to have a legal ambulance crew consist of minimum staffing of an MRT (EMR) and any level of EMT.

Lenny indicated that such a change in staffing would not work. We do not want to lower the level of patient care. The Volunteer Committee will continue polling

services on this issue.

Questions about the status of the data collection process were asked of Lenny.

The Chair will send Lenny a letter about what data results we want to see,

The Chair reported that the Bureau of Justice Assistance Public Safety Officers death benefit is now \$311,810 down from \$ \$315,746 last year.

New Business:

Nominations for Vice-Chair- Pam Norkus and Secretary- Phil Heavin - passed

Recommendation for Chair: Jay B. Paretzky – passed

Meeting dates changed. The CT EMS Volunteer Committee will meet on the second Monday in January, March, May, June, September and November, in 2010

The dates are: 1/11, 3/8, 5/10, 6/14, 9/13 and 11/8/2009

Next meeting: 1/11/2010 location to be announced

Please let the Chair know if you care to host one of our meetings.

Adjourned 2100

Phil Heavin Secretary

Jay B. Paretzky Chair CT EMS Volunteer Committee, a Committee of the CT EMS Advisory Board

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